Abstract of the Disclosure

In pin assignment for blocks in a netlist, each one of a plurality of pins are first assigned to a respective one of a plurality of first locations along a periphery a block in accordance with top-down criteria and components are then placed within in the block in relative proximity to the pins with which the components connect. Each of the pins may then be moved to a respective second location within the block proximal the components to which such pins connect in accordance with bottom-up criteria. The components may then have their placement refined in accordance to their relative position to the pins connecting to such components at the second location.